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DATE:	April 1, 2002	FILE NO:	WEAT/0076
TO:	EXAMINER DAVID BOCHNA	FAX NO:	703-305-3597
COMPANY:	USPTO		
FROM:	WILLIAM B. PATTERSON	PAGE(S):	11 with cover
MESSAGE:	Original to Follow <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2002

U.S. Serial No. 09/381,508
Filing Date: September 21, 1999
Inventor: Metcalfe
Examiner: David Bochna
Group Art Unit: 3629

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PATENT
ADV. DR. No. WEAT/0076

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

13/And (2.6)
LP
OfficialIn re Application of:
Metcalf

Group Art Unit: 3629

Serial No.: 09/381,508

Examiner: Bochna, David

Confirmation No.: 4047

Filed: September 21, 1999

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For: EXPANDABLE SLOTTED
TUBING STRING AND
METHOD FOR CONNECTING
SUCH A TUBING STRING

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number 703-305-3597 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.

1 April 2002
DateCullen R. Patton
Signature

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2002

In response to the Final Office Action dated February 26, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 26, 2002, please enter the following amendments and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0076/WBP for any fees necessary to make the submission of this response timely.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follow:

1. An expandable tubing assembly comprising:
a tubular connector defining overlapping longitudinal slots and comprising an intermediate portion located between slotted end portions, the connector being radially